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with the sentiment which has made war the chief attraction of history. On the other hand, we are happy to believe that sentiment is changing and that it is already sufficiently transformed to be ready to accept a history of civil rather than of military affairs.

In view of this change in sentiment, we respectfully suggest to the future writers of history that the books which go into the hands of children in school should be a record, not of war, but of the origin, growth and benefits of the peaceful arts and callings—of schools, commerce, manufactures, agriculture, mining, navigation, inventions, the principles and platforms of political parties, of the domestic arts, of the home life of the people. In a word, let us have a civil rather than a military history.

To this end, let there be in the history books no pictures of battles on land or sea, none of fierce struggles of men with men, of swords or bayonets thrust through bodies, of fields strewn with dead. The reason for the omission of these pictures is obvious. It is a law that "we grow like that which we contemplate." That man was wise who burnt a magazine full of war pictures which was sent to his children. Civilians should study civil history, leaving the military history to warriors. We would not, of course, wholly banish military facts. The causes of the respective wars, their duration, cost, losses and results, should be clearly and succinctly stated. For the sake of those wishing to use military facts, there might be added a tabulated statement in the form in which statistics are usually given.

The following reasons for reducing the war element may be added: (a) Indian habits and the Indians themselves, save fragments of them, are gone. (b) The Revolutionary heroes are all at rest, and we all join in almost worshipful honor of their heroism and achievements. But we should be much more benefited by studying their civic and domestic virtues and their noble characters, and do more good by impressing these upon the rising generation than by lauding their bravery on the battlefield. (c) The war of 1812 was little credit to either party and could with small loss be omitted. (d) The war with Mexico should never have taken place and may well be largely forgotten. (e) The War of the Rebellion was between brothers. The cause of it has been removed by the red-hot plowshare of war, and peace has been restored. When brothers have made up after a quarrel, wisdom says: "Do not keep on rehearsing the sufferings and losses, and brooding over what was. Face about and look into the future, and see what God has in store for them that live in peace and do his will." Instead, therefore, of filling your children's and grandchildren's minds with accounts of the battles, sufferings, defeats, humiliations and desolations of the war, instruct them in the spirit of the poet's lines:

"No more shall the war-cry sever,
Or the winding rivers be red;
We banish our anger forever
When we laurel the graves of our dead."

With one Union, one flag, one people, with charity for all and malice toward none, let us live in peace, practicing it among ourselves and so far as possible promoting it throughout the earth. Let us make for the future history with no war in it.

Wichita, Kan.

War for the Sake of the Trip.

A warm and robust friend of peace in Texas wrote us, under date of October 11, as follows:

"The editorials in the October number are entirely to my liking. To me it seems that the truth presented in such clear, logical and dispassionate style should and must have great influence for good in the world. And yet one is continually discouraged by meeting those to whom such truths are thus being presented, and who nevertheless continue to believe that war with all its infamies and barbarities is now and will continue to be a necessity, in this or that supposable case in the distant future. All present disputes, they are willing to admit, might be settled by the just and reasonable method of arbitration, but for the future they are not willing to trust. They think that their children will not be amenable to reason in the same degree that they are!

"Only the other day I met a man who was regretting that he had not been able to take part in the war with China. 'Why,' said I, 'you surely did not wish to go slaughtering the people who were not harming you or yours.' 'No,' he replied, 'I would have shot over their heads; I would have liked the trip and to have seen the country.'

"Now is not that discouraging? To think of human beings who are willing to place themselves in the position of slaves to military masters—shoot when ordered to (over their heads, psha!)—for the sake of a trip to foreign soil! He admitted that he had not a feeling against the people of China. Well, well! when will the citizens of this country think and weigh the result of their actions."

The Sophistry of War.

In a prelude to a recent sermon in the People's Temple, Boston, Rev. Charles A. Crane spoke as follows:

"All too powerful is the ready sophistry by which we are led to yield ourselves to the delusions which are the weakness of the European nations. 'In time of peace prepare for war' is a popular proverb which has the look of common sense, but which is full of fallacy and peril. Its fundamental assumption is that war is necessary and that we should be prepared for it, whereas the fact is that war is a crime, a reversal of the processes of social evolution and an economic monstrosity. . . . It is absurd for any modern nation to endeavor to prepare itself for the mastery of the world. Napoleon's dream of universal empire can never be realized through military power. Where many nations exist coördinately, no one nation can be stronger than several of the others combined.

"The attempt to attain dominance by force of arms has always been disastrous. Heretofore our nation has been secure, not because we had great armies, but because of our policy of peace and our disposition to mind our own business. Preparation for war invites war. The notion that either the army or the navy is the glory of the nation is a 'military sophism.' Giving all just dues to the soldiers and the sailors, there never has been a country made by them and there never will be, for it is not their business to make countries. The arts and the artisans of peace are the makers of the country. On

no question has the Church gone further from the teachings of Christ than on the doctrine of war. During the first four Christian centuries, the profession of arms was un-Christian. The voice of statecraft, of political economy and of Christ alike are all against war.

"If it had not been for her soldiers, Great Britain might have been ruling here to-night. She owes the loss of the United States to her army. Canada is England's, not because of English soldiers, but because Canada's people believe in and love England, and the most troublesome part of that dominion to the crown is that part which the soldiers won — French Canada. South Africa is England's, so far as it is in any good sense, not because of England's soldiers, but because of her traders, travelers and missionaries, and the same fact is seen in the great continent of Australia. Spain, on the other hand, has been eaten up by the spirit of military preparedness. Once she swept the seas and the world uncovered its head when she spoke. Now she is hardly a nightmare. France, too, following the same will of the wisp, has lost untold treasure in money and men.

"While the world knows we can fight if need be, we have been made great by following after peace. And none can emphasize the glory of peace as we can. Some great nation, potent and resourceful, must rise in the majesty of Christian and civilized reason and dare the other nations to 'ground arms.' And who better than Columbia, richest of all, proud of sons who fly to shed their blood for freedom, strongest in her isolation on the western hemisphere, most self-reliant in her ability to feed, clothe and arm her children from her own territory; alone of all the nations competent to lock all her doors and burn her ships and by her own internal resources not lose a step in the onward progress — who better than Columbia can thus send her citizen soldiery back to their fields and shops and say, 'Let us have peace'?"

New Books.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE TRANSVAAL. By Edward B. Rose. London: E. B. Rose, 8 John Street, Adelphi, W. C. Price, 5 shillings net, post free.

History will have a great deal to say about the recent conflict in South Africa. What the final judgment will be there can be little doubt in the mind of any one who has followed with open and impartial mind the course of events which has led to the destruction of the independence of the two republics. On no subject will the historian find more abundant material on which to make up his verdict than on this South African war. Every possible aspect of it has been written down by contemporaries and eye witnesses. Among the material which the historian will draw on nothing, perhaps, will be found more valuable than the book before us. Mr. Rose's evidence is practically all first hand. He resided twelve years in the country before the war. He was a member of the Witwatersrand Mine Employees and Mechanics Union during the whole period of its existence, and for more than a year its president. He was also a member of the Executive Council of the National Union and of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, and served at different times on the staff of the pro-Boer *Standard and Diggers' News* and of the anti-Boer *Transvaal Leader*. He thus had opportunity to observe the character and

attitude of capitalists and of workmen, of Boer and Uitlander. It would be impossible in a brief notice to give any just idea of the great value of the book, the bulk of which is a simple statement of facts, though presented in a most interesting way. Its value is greatly increased by its collection of the various reports, despatches, proclamations, etc., which have any important bearing on the subject, and its presentation in appendices of the Constitution (Grondwet) of the South African Republic, the Pretoria Convention of 1881 and the London Convention of 1884, about which so much has been written and so little actually known. The author's conclusion is that while the Boers and their government made mistakes and perpetrated wrong, they have been far more sinned against than sinning, and that "there was absolutely no justification for the recent war and its resultant destruction of their independence." The two men most responsible for the war he declares to have been Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Rhodes, in this order. If the present policy is persisted in he believes, from his knowledge of the Boers, that all South Africa will ultimately be lost to Great Britain.

THE MORAL DAMAGE OF WAR. By Walter Walsh. London: R. Brimley Johnson. Cloth, 283 pages. Price, 3 shillings 6 pence net.

This is the most powerful arraignment of war from the moral standpoint that has recently fallen under our eyes.

Mr. Walsh, who is pastor of the Gilfillan Memorial Church at Dundee, Scotland, goes straight to the heart of the subject, and at its heart drives all his blows, one after another, with such overwhelming force that one feels, at the end of his treatment, that there is no life left in the poor, miserable, heathenish thing that men call "glorious war." After an introductory chapter on "War Considered as an Immorality," Mr. Walsh takes up in order, in succeeding chapters, the Moral Damage of War to the Nation, to the Child, to the Soldier, to the Politician, to the Journalist, to the Preacher, to the Missionary, to the Trader, to the Citizen, to the Patriot, and to the Reformer. On another page we quote a passage from the chapter on "The Moral Damage of War to the Patriot," in order to give the reader some idea of Mr. Walsh's style and method of treatment, which it would be impossible to do by making a few scattering selections. We wish the book might have a hundred thousand readers in this country, where war has recently wrought immense moral damage in nearly every sphere of life.

SWORDS AND PLOWSHARES. By Ernest Crosby. New York: Funk & Wagnalls Company. Price, \$1.00 net.

A new book by Mr. Crosby is sure to receive a warm welcome from those who have interest in the true things of life. "Swords and Plowshares," which is dedicated to "the Noble Army of Traitors and Heretics," is a collection of Whitmanesque "verse-paragraphs" and short lyric poems. Every one of these contains some vital truth of immediate practical value, stated in the simplest and most direct way, or some study of nature, of which Mr. Crosby is very fond. His "verse-paragraphs," or prose-chants, are equal to the best of Whitman's, and his lyric poems are full of that peculiarly attractive beauty and delicacy which no effort at art can